

## IMACS SITE FORM

\*1. State No: 42SM458  
\*2. Agency No: \_\_\_\_\_  
3. Temp. No: 5196-05

## Part A - Administrative Data

## INTERMOUNTAIN ANTIQUITIES COMPUTER SYSTEM

Form approved for use by

BLM - Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, Nevada

Division of State History - Utah, Wyoming

USFS - Intermountain Region

NPS - Utah, Wyoming

4. State Utah State Code 42 County Summit County Code SM  
5. Project Victory Ranch Phase III P-III Associates Project No. 5196  
\*6. Agency Report No. U-03-PD-0248p P-III Associates Report No. 5196-01-20305  
\*7. Site Name / Property Name Weber-Provo Diversion Canal  
8. Class ☐ Prehistoric ☒ Historic ☐ Multicomponent ☐ Paleontologic ☐ Ethnographic  
9. Descriptive Site Type Canal  
\*10. Elevation at site datum 6,310 ft  
\*11. UTM Grid at site datum Zone 12 473814 m E 4494901 m N  
\*12. Legal Location  
of NW of NE of Section 31 T. 2S R. 6E  
of NE of NW of Section 31 T. 2S R. 6E  
of SE of NW of Section 31 T. 2S R. 6E  
\*13. Meridian Salt Lake, UT (1)  
\*14. Map Reference (USGS 7.5 min) Francis, UT 1967  
15. Aerial Photo N/A  
16. Location and Access  
The site can be reached by traveling west on State Route 32 from the intersection of State Route 32 (where it turns north in the center of Francis) with State Route 35 for approximately 1.4 mi until you reach a bridge. The canal extends north to south under the bridge. No datum was left at the site. The site is on private land and permission must be obtained from the landowner prior to entering the property.  
\*17. Land Owner Private  
\*18. Federal Administrative Units N/A  
\*19. Location of Curated Materials N/A  
20. Description

This site consists of the Weber-Provo Diversion Canal. The segment recorded here extends from the bridge over the canal on State Route 32 to the confluence with the Provo River. The section near the bridge has concrete lining and stone rip-rap. Most of the canal within the project area is unlined. This portion of the canal was originally documented by P-III Associates in 2001 and reported upon by Birnie (2002). The historic site structure form that was completed during the project is included as part of this site form. The canal was constructed in 1929 and 1930 and enlarged between 1941 and 1947. The canal was constructed to divert water from the Weber River Basin to the Provo River Basin for irrigation and domestic use. It remains in-use at present. The recorded section of the canal is approximately 1900 ft long. It ranges from 35 to 45 ft wide, and is 6-12 ft deep. Earthen berms are present along both sides of the canal.

- \*21. Site Condition ☐ Excellent (A) ☒ Good (B) ☐ Fair (C) ☐ Poor (D)  
\*22. Impact Agents ☐ Deflation (DE) ☐ Demolition (DM) ☒ Erosion (ER) ☐ Fence (PR) ☐ Grazing (GR) ☐ Road (RD)  
☐ Development (PR) ☐ Range Fire (OT) ☐ Vandalism (VA) ☐ Rodent Damage (RO) ☐ Other (OT) specify below

## Describe

The portion of the site recorded here has been impacted by erosion along its lateral margins and at its confluence with the Provo River. However, the segment remains in good condition.

\*23. National Register Status Eligible

## Justify

\* Encoded data items

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42SM458

5196-05

BLM 8100-1  
FS R-4 2300-2  
3/90

# IMACS SITE FORM

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This in-use site retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. This canal has played an important role in water control, usage, and supply in the local area and the region since it was first constructed in 1929 and 1930. Since its construction, the canal has helped supply supplemental water for irrigated land in the two most populous counties in Utah as well as one lesser-populated county, helping assure jobs and local food supply. The canal has also contributed to providing a reliable domestic water supply to Salt Lake City, Provo, Orem, and several other communities in Utah County. Construction and use of the canal is intertwined with the development and growth of Salt Lake and Utah counties as well as the sustainability of agriculture and domestic water supply in these areas. The site is clearly associated with events that have been of major significance in the development of the local area and region. Thus, the site is recommended as being eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion a of 36CFR60.4. The site retains integrity of design and engineering and represents a type, period, and method of construction in canal-building in the west. As such, the site is also recommended as being eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion c of 36CFR60.4. The canal is not known to be associated with any persons who have played an important role in local, regional, or national history. Also, the canal itself is unlikely to provide any information important to history. Important data regarding design, engineering, and construction are available in written historic records. Thus, the site is recommended as being not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criteria b and d of 36CFR60.4.

24. Photos	Date	Roll No.	Neg. No.	Item No.	Caption
	5/1/200	16	02		Weber-Provo Diversion Canal north of bridge showing canal and flume. Photo faces north-northeast.
	5/1/200	16	03		Weber-Provo Diversion Canal south of bridge, facing south.
	5/1/200	16	04		Detail of rip-rap on east bank of the canal south of bridge. Photo faces east-southeast.
	5/1/200	16	05		Storm drain and headgate on north side of State Route 32. Photo faces west-southwest.
	5/1/200	16	06		Storm drain and headgate with feeder ditch on north side of State Route 32. Photo faces southwest.
	5/1/200	16	07		Overview of backdirt berm on north side of Weber-Provo Diversion Canal facing southwest showing relationship of the canal (photo left) to the berm.
	5/1/200	16	08		Confluence of Weber-Provo Diversion Canal with the Provo River. Photo faces southwest.
	5/1/200	16	09		Confluence of Weber-Provo Diversion Canal with the Provo River. Note eroded backdirt berms in foreground and background. Photo faces east.
	5/1/200	16	10		Weber-Provo Diversion Canal from confluence with the Provo River. Photo faces north-northeast.
	5/1/200	16	11		Backdirt berm on northwest side of Weber-Provo Diversion Canal. The canal is in photo right. Photo faces north-northeast.
	5/1/200	16	12		Recent ditch on north side of canal. Photo faces southeast.
	5/1/200	16	13		Outlet under highway to Weber-Provo Diversion Canal. Photo faces south.
	5/1/200	16	14		Concrete and steel headgate and drainage. Photo faces northeast.
	5/1/200	16	15		Confluence of Weber-Provo Diversion Canal with the Provo River. View is from the southeastern bank facing northwest. Note eroded backdirt berm.

25. Recorded by Robert I. Birnie

\*26. Survey Organization P-III Associates, Inc. (PD) \*28. Survey Date 01-May-2002

27. Assisting Crew Members None

List of Attachments ☐ Part B ☒ Topo Map ☒ Photos ☐ Other  
☒ Part C ☒ Site Map ☒ Artifact/Feature Illustrations ☐ Continuation Sheets  
☐ Part E

## Part A - Environmental Data

\*29. Slope 2 (Degrees) 260 Aspect (Degrees)

\*30. Distance to Permanent Water 0 x 100 Meters

\*Type of Water Source Stream/River (B)

Name of Water Source Weber River / Provo River

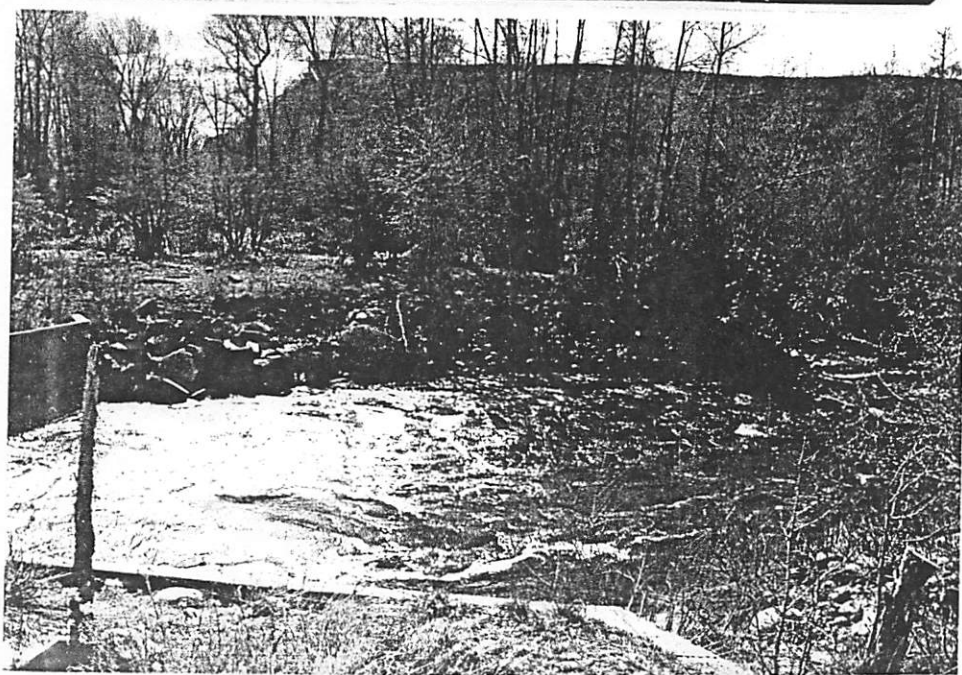
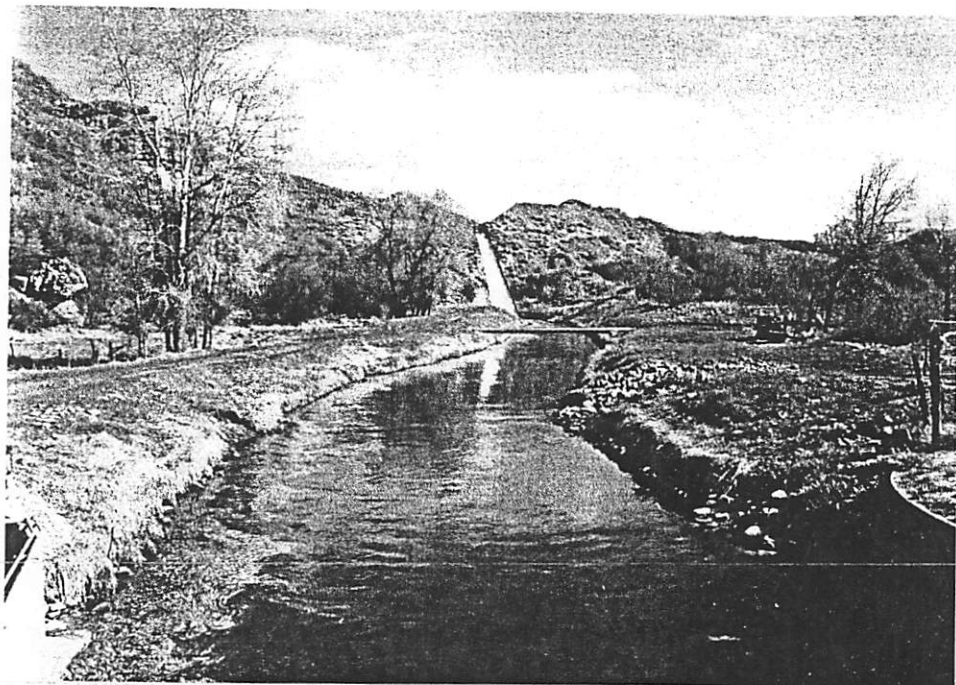
\* Encoded data items

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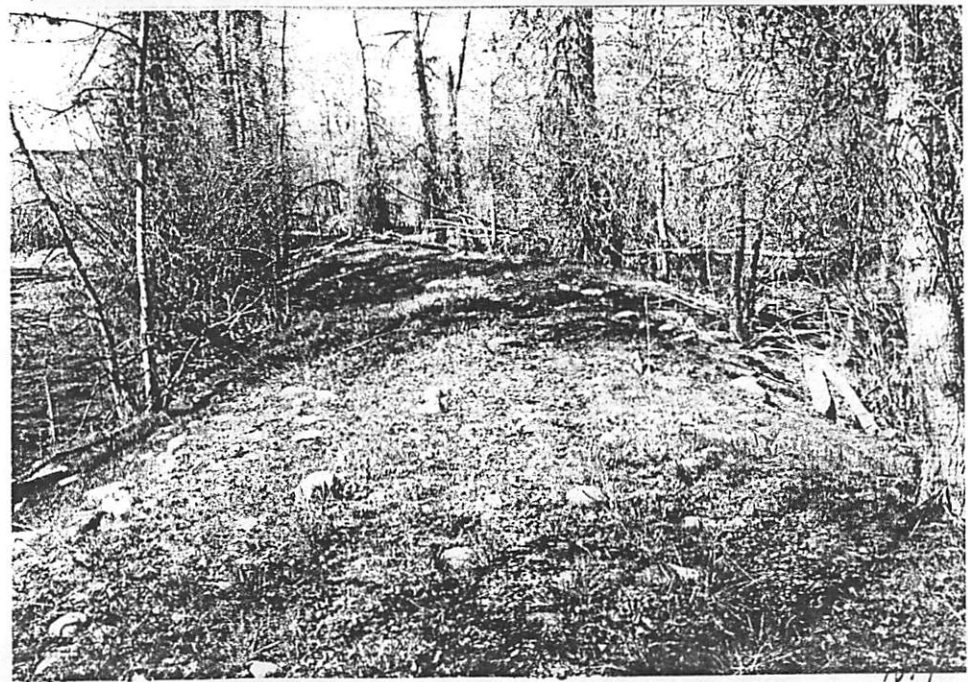
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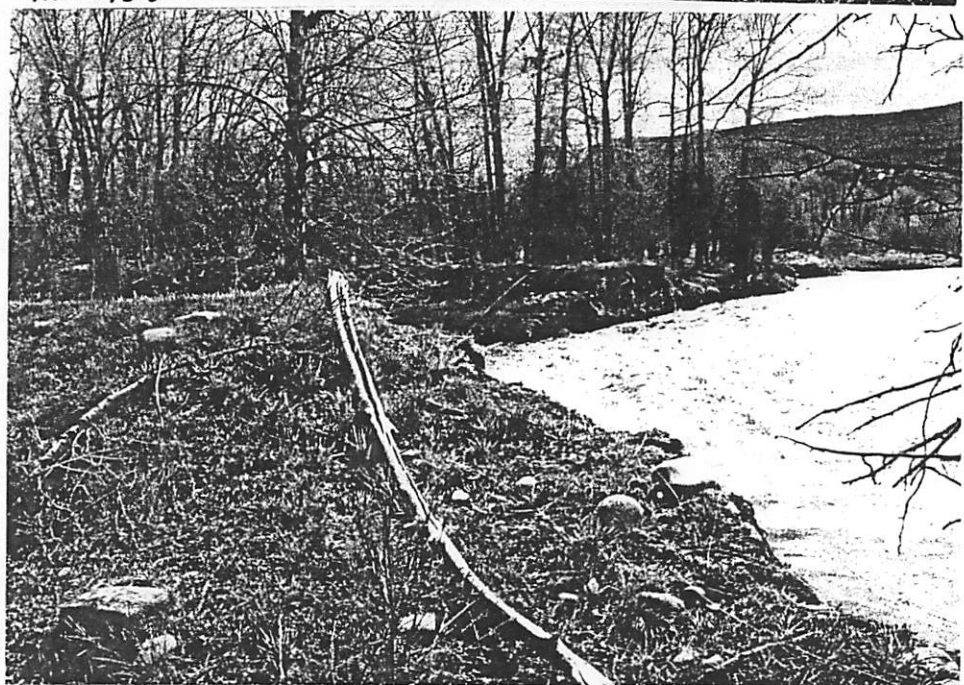


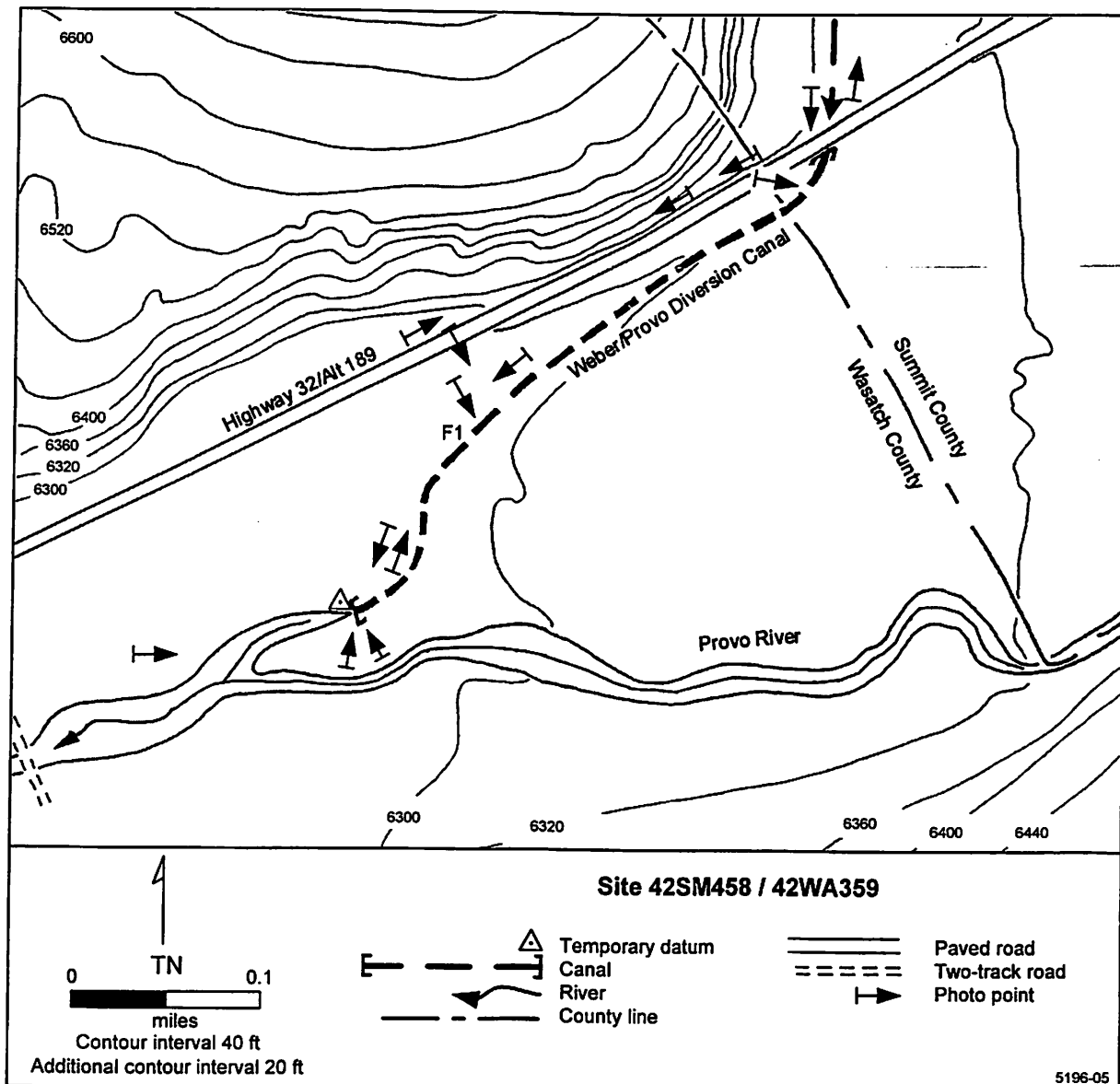
AVENUE  
1919





AVERY  
PV119





vegetated with grass, bushes, and trees at the time of the inventory and surface visibility was less than 10 percent.

## 5 HISTORY

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Date of Construction: 1929-1930

Enlarged: 1941-1947

Historic Themes: Mark themes related to this property with "S" or "C" (S = significant, C = contributing).

(see instructions for details)

- |                                                                         |                                                     |                                           |                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Economics                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry         | <input type="checkbox"/> Politics/<br>Government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Education                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention        | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeology                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering                | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape        | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment/             | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture     | <input type="checkbox"/> Social History          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Law              | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Ethnic Heritage            | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature       | <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Planning<br>& Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Exploration/<br>Settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> Maritime History |                                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Health/Medicine            | <input type="checkbox"/> Military         |                                                  |
|                                                                         |                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Performing Arts  |                                                  |

Write a chronological history of the property, focusing primarily on the original or principal owners & significant events. Explain and justify any significant themes marked above. Use continuation sheets as necessary.

The Weber-Provo Diversion Canal was constructed in 1929 and 1930 as part of the Weber River Project and subsequently enlarged between 1941 and 1947 as part of the Provo River Project (U.S. Department of the Interior 1981:2002:10; Weber Basin Water Conservancy District 2002). The Weber River Project was intended to address demand for late season irrigation and drought periods (Weber Basin Water Conservancy District 2002). The purpose of the Provo River Project is to provide "a supplemental water supply for irrigation of 48,156 acres of highly developed farmlands in Utah, Salt Lake and Wasatch Counties, as well as an assured domestic water supply for Salt Lake City, Provo, Orem, Pleasant Grove, Lindon, American Fork, and Lehi, Utah (U.S. Department of the Interior 1981:1033). According to Embry (1996:196-197), the canal was constructed as part of the Echo Reservoir project under the auspices of the Weber River Project. The Echo Reservoir Project was conceived by the Utah Water Storage Commission and constructed by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Embry 1996:196-197; Weber Basin Water Conservancy District 2002). According to Embry (1996:196-197), the "... purpose of this diversion canal was to transfer water from the Weber River to water users in Utah and Great Salt Lake valleys" via the Provo River. Today, the canal is part of the carriage system of the Provo River Project, where it is considered one of the major project structures (U.S. Department of the Interior 1981:1033). Deer Creek Reservoir stores "... surplus water of the Weber River diverted by the enlarged Weber-Provo Diversion canal ... (Western Area Power Administration 2002:1).

As constructed, the canal is 9 mi long and has a capacity of 1000 ft<sup>3</sup>/s. The canal has earthen, earth-lined, and concrete-lined sections. The typical bottom width in the earthen and earth-lined sections

is 24 ft and water depth is 7.3 ft. Typical maximum bottom width in the concrete-lined sections is 12 feet and water depth is 6.37 ft (Western Area Power Administration 2002:10).

## 6 PHOTOGRAPHS

See IMACS site form.





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## Development

### History

The early history of the Weber Basin Project is very similar to the history of the Ogden and Weber River Projects. Weber River water was first used by new settlers for irrigation about 1848. The development was reasonably rapid, and by 1896 more than 100 canal companies had begun to divert water from the river or its tributaries and had established rights to all of the normal summer flow. Storage of spring flood flows was undertaken to overcome shortages during the late irrigation season or drought periods. The 3,850-acre-foot East Canyon Reservoir, constructed by private interests on a tributary of the Weber River in 1896, was one of the first storage developments. It was enlarged to a capacity of 29,000 acre-feet in 1916. Numerous small reservoirs, ranging up to 1,900-acre-foot capacity, also were constructed by irrigation companies.

### Investigations

Two Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs were constructed on the Weber River system before authorization of the Weber Basin Project. The 74,000-acre-foot Echo Reservoir on Weber River was completed in 1931 as the principal feature of the Weber River Project. The 44,000-acre-foot Pineview Reservoir on the Ogden River was completed in 1936 as a part of the Ogden River Project. Additional canals and conduits were built under the Ogden River Project. Some water from Weber river watershed is diverted to the Provo River Project through the Weber-Provo Diversion Canal, constructed as a part of the Weber River Project and enlarged by the Provo River Project.

Planning for the Weber Basin Project started in 1942, was discontinued during the war years, and was resumed in 1946 when it became apparent that the marked population growth in the project area during World War II was permanent. Newcomers, attracted mainly by war installations, remained after the war ended, creating an acute demand for municipal water and accentuating the need for additional irrigation supplies. A status report on investigations was made in January 1948. A project report issued July 1949 led to congressional authorization of the project in 1949. The first appropriation of construction funds was made July 9, 1952. The definite plan report was prepared in 1952. This initial report was revised in 1955 and 1959.

### Authorization

Construction of the Weber Basin Project was authorized by the Congress on August 29, 1949 (63 Stat. 677).

### Construction

First contracts for construction of project features were awarded in 1956. All were completed in 1969.

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